

REMARKS

The prior art, listed on the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement will follow in the very near future.

The above newly entered/amended paragraph(s) of the specification overcome some informalities noted in the specification on file. The undersigned avers that the newly entered/amended paragraph(s) of the specification do not contain any new subject matter.

Claims 21, 25 and 26 are rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated in view of Paajanen et al. '632. In addition, claims 23, 24, 29 and 30 are rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as being unpatentable in view of Paajanen et al. '632 and Braitberg et al. '479 while claims 27, 31 and 32 are rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as being unpatentable in view of Paajanen et al. '632. The Applicant acknowledges and respectfully traverses the raised anticipatory and obviousness rejections in view of the following remarks.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 22 and 28 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim(s). In accordance with this indication, the subject matter of claim 22 and 28 is incorporated into independent claims 21 and 27, respectively, and those two (2) amended independent claims are both now believed to be allowable. As claims 23-26 each depend, either directly or indirectly, from amended independent claim 21 and as claims 29-32 each depend, either directly or indirectly, from amended independent claim 27, all of those dependent claims are also believed to be allowable.

In view of the above claim amendments, the Applicant respectfully submits that further comments concerning the applied prior art of Paajanen et al. '632 and Braitberg et al. '479 is not believed necessary. The Applicant also notes the remaining prior art cited in the official action. As none of that additional art is applied by the Examiner against the claims of this application, the Applicant is not providing any comments concerning that art as well.

If any further amendment to this application is believed necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable form, the Examiner is courteously solicited to contact the undersigned representative of the Applicant to discuss the same.

10/728,597

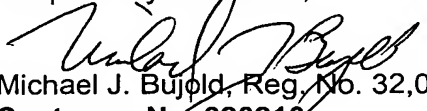
In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the raised rejection(s) should be withdrawn at this time. If the Examiner disagrees with the Applicant's view concerning the withdrawal of the outstanding rejection(s) or applicability of the Paaianen et al. '632 and/or Braitberg et al. '479 references, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to indicate the specific passage or passages, or the drawing or drawings, which contain the necessary teaching, suggestion and/or disclosure required by case law. As such teaching, suggestion and/or disclosure is not present in the applied references, the raised rejection should be withdrawn at this time. Alternatively, if the Examiner is relying on his/her expertise in this field, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter an affidavit substantiating the Examiner's position so that suitable contradictory evidence can be entered in this case by the Applicant.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the raised rejection(s) should be withdrawn and this application is now placed in a condition for allowance. Action to that end, in the form of an early Notice of Allowance, is courteously solicited by the Applicant at this time.

The Applicant respectfully requests that any outstanding objection(s) or requirement(s), as to the form of this application, be held in abeyance until allowable subject matter is indicated for this case.

In the event that there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. Bujold, Reg. No. 32,018
Customer No: 020210
Davis & Bujold, P.L.L.C.
Fourth Floor
500 North Commercial Street
Manchester NH 03101-1151
Telephone 603-624-9220
Facsimile 603-624-9229
E-mail: patent@davisandbujold.com